

What is claimed is:

1. An image forming apparatus comprising:

(a) a communication device for communicating with an external apparatus according to a communication procedure by a facsimile;

(b) a data processor for picking up image data and communication control data by decoding facsimile communication data from the external apparatus received by the communication device;

(c) a memory for storing the image data obtained by the data processor, by associating with identification data to identify the image data;

(d) an image output device for forming and outputting an image based on the image data;

(e) an identification electronic mail creating device for creating an identification electronic mail for demanding an image data processing format to be set, by notifying that, when communication control data has been obtained by the data processor, facsimile communication data to be sent to a predetermined electronic mail address has been received, and also by notifying image data identification data;

(f) a transmission and reception device for transmitting the identification electronic mail to a predetermined external terminal and for receiving an instruction electronic mail containing an instruction on a processing format for the image data and the identification data from the external terminal;

(g) an electronic mail processor for extracting the instruction on the image data processing format and the identification data from the instruction electronic mail from the external terminal; and

(h) an image data processor for sending to the image output device an output image data which is obtained by processing so that the image data specified according to the extracted processing format is outputted according to the processing format.

2. The image forming apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a transmission table for storing an electronic mail address in association with the transmitter of the facsimile communication data included in the communication control data,

wherein the identification electronic mail device extracts the electronic mail address where the identification

electronic mail is sent by referring to the transmission table based on the transmitter to create the identification electronic mail.

3. The image forming apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a processing table for storing a transmitter of the facsimile communication data included in the communication control data, and information on whether the image data corresponding to the communication control data should be sent to the image output device or the memory,

wherein the data processor sends the image data to a predetermined receiver by referring to the processing table, based on the transmitter.

4. The image forming apparatus of claim 1, further comprising an input device for specifying a voluntary receiver to which an identification electronic mail is sent, when the identification electronic mail creating device creates the identification electronic mail.

5. The image forming apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a deletion device for deleting the image data output.

6. The image forming apparatus of claim 5, wherein image data processing format is one of printing, facsimile sending, e-mail sending and deleting, or a combination thereof.